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Contains one Week's News  
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No. 17,047.

號四月正年八十壹百九千壹英

SONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1918.

日十次歲年七國民華中

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Daily.  
Applicants will be required to produce  
Passports or identification papers. All  
persons, with certain exceptions, who  
reside in the Colony for more than  
7 days are required to register them-  
selves under the REGISTRATION OF  
PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms  
of Registration giving the particulars  
required may be obtained at the G.P.O.  
and at all Police Stations.  
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WHICH HAS COVERED THE SHIPS OF  
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TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1914.  
\$23,970,367.  
1—Authorized Capital \$8,000,000  
Subscribed Capital \$4,500,000  
Paid-up Capital \$2,437,500  
2—Fire Funds \$3,837,047  
3—Life & Annuity Funds \$17,567,590  
Sinking Fund Account \$28,230  
\$23,970,367  
Revenue Fire Branch \$2,381,466  
Life and Annuity \$1,411,688  
Revenue Marine Department \$37,238  
Other Receipts \$78,940  
\$25,339,228  
The Accumulative Funds of the various  
Branches are separately invested, and, by  
Act of Parliament, are set aside to meet  
the claims under the respective Depart-  
ments of the Company's Business.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,  
Agents.

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### TIME TABLE.

#### WEEK DAY

7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.  
8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.  
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.  
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
2.45 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
3.15 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.  
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

#### HOLIDAY DAYS

8.00 a.m. and 9 p.m. 8.30 p.m. to 11.00  
p.m. every half hour.  
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every quarter of  
an hour.

#### SUNDAY

7.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.  
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.  
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
12.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.  
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EIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

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Extra Car at 12 midnight.  
SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the  
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Season and month tickets available for  
all cars not already full running at the  
time stated in the Company's time tables,  
but such for special cars, can be obtained  
on application at the Company's Office.  
No Season tickets will be issued until  
payment therefor has been made in Bank  
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recognised Bank Notes.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,  
General Managers.

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ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS.  
KOWLOON BAY.

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Steel Building Work of every Description,  
Castings, Forgings, Repairs and Supplies.

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Hongkong, April 11, 1912.



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CURE A COLD IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.  
AN EXCELLENT REMEDY FOR  
NEURALGIA and MALARIAL HEADACHE.

Copy of report order recently received from England:—

"All Saints' Lodge," Howley, Blackwater, Hants.

Mrs. — will be much obliged by Messrs. WATSON sending to her by post  
10 bottles of their "Cold Cure." She will be glad to have these as soon as possible,  
as she is to-day sending her last bottle to her son (Capt. —, of the Buffs), who is  
at the front and finds the Tablets excellent for stopping Cold."

PREPARED ONLY BY

### A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Telephone 16.

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ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON  
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over thirty years' experience. We own two Slipways and can accommodate any craft  
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Works Office, 45, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong. Telephone No. 454.  
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Estimates furnished on application.

HONGKONG, April 11, 1912.

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## THE WAR.

### TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

### RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE DRAMA.

"THE MASK HAS FALLEN."  
TROTSKY ON GERMANY'S  
HYPOCRITICAL PEACE  
PROPOSALS.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 3.

M. Trotsky, addressing a meeting  
of the Central Committee of the  
Soviets, mordantly unmasked what  
he described as the hypocritical peace  
proposals of Germany.

He declared that his Government  
and the workers would never consent  
to such conditions as Germany wish-  
ed to impose. If the Central Powers  
did not consent loyally to the free  
disposal of the destinies of the Polish  
and Lithuanian nations, it would be  
urgently necessary courageously to  
defend the Russian Revolution.

After M. Trotsky's speech, the  
Soviets passed a resolution declaring  
that the refusal of the Representa-  
tives of Germany to admit the free  
right of oppressed nations and  
colonies, seized before the war, to  
dispose of their own destiny signified  
that the German authorities are  
adopting their old annexationist  
policy. Austria and Germany refuse  
to guarantee immediately and ir-  
revocably the removal of their troops  
from Poland, Lithuania, Courland  
and parts of Livonia and Estonia.

The free affirmation of the will of  
the populations of the occupied coun-  
tries is impossible until the popula-  
tions return. The allegation of the  
German Delegates that the will of  
the peoples of these countries has  
already been manifested is without  
foundation, because the peoples of  
the occupied countries could not  
express their will under martial law  
and a military censorship.

"We defend the right of Poland, Lithuania  
and Courland to dispose of their own  
destiny really and freely. We say  
to the peoples of Austria, Germany,  
Bulgaria and Turkey: 'Remember  
that the conclusion of an immediate  
democratic peace will depend, above  
all, on you. All the peoples of  
Europe look to you who are exhaust-  
ed and bled by an unprecedented war  
that you will not permit the Austrian  
and German Imperialists to make  
war on Revolutionary Russia for the  
subjugation of Poland, Lithuania,  
Courland and Armenia."

Subsequently, the representatives  
on all Fronts were telegraphically  
summoned to Petrograd. They ad-  
mitted that the situation on the  
Fronts is distressing, but declared  
the Army would defend the Russian  
Revolution; but they demanded  
bread and boots.

"THE MASK IS TORN OFF."  
RUSSIAN APPEAL TO GERMAN  
SOLDIERS TO REVOLT

LONDON, Jan. 3.

M. Trotsky's speech to the Central  
Committee of the Soviets is the first  
official news received in London that  
there had been a rupture of the peace  
negotiations, and even yet, the terms  
to which M. Trotsky takes exception  
have not been disclosed. But it is  
apparently true that Germany adopts  
the attitude that Poland, Courland,  
Lithuania and Estonia have already  
expressed a desire to be annexed by  
Germany, and, therefore, Germany  
must remain in occupation of these  
regions.

This may be inferred from a re-  
markable article published in the  
Soviet, *Pravda*, and repro-  
duced in pamphlet form, in the  
German language, by the governing  
authorities, with a view to its dis-  
tribution among the German troops  
at the Front.

The article, which is headed  
"The Mask is Torn Off," declares  
that the conditions submitted to the  
Russian Peace Delegation shows that  
"all the Austrian and German prom-  
ises of a democratic peace are  
unconscionable lies."

After describing various exhibitions  
of the "masked" in Poland and  
Lithuania, by the enslavement,  
shootings and starvation of the  
population, the article says, only  
German barons and Polish land-  
owners ask for annexation to Ger-  
many. These are the people whom  
Austria and Germany assume speak  
for the entire population as regards  
self-determination which, in this  
sense, means nothing but the viola-  
tion of the will of the mass of work-  
men and indigent peasants.

The German Government desires  
to "free" the peoples of the Russian  
western frontier from the Russian  
Revolution and to subjugate them  
with German capital; to impose an  
Austrian monarchy on Poland and to  
make German duchies of Lithuania  
and Courland.

The article concludes by saying:  
On such a basis the Russian Govern-  
ment can never enter into negotia-  
tions. The mask has fallen, and the  
word is now with you, German  
soldiers and workmen. Rise, sol-  
diers of Germany, for a revolution-  
ary struggle against a prolonged war.  
Fire no further shot on the Russian  
Front; do not be the executioners  
of Russians and the Revolution.  
Let not a single regiment proceed  
to the other Fronts. If you wish a  
general peace, enable the people to  
come to their senses."

### RUSSIA'S FLENIPOETIARY TO LONDON.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

M. Litvinoff, who has been ap-  
pointed as "Provisional Plenipoten-  
tiary" to London, is a prominent  
London Russian, associated with the  
Russian Political Exiles Society, and  
holds a post in the Russian Govern-  
ment Commission in London.

### RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONARIES SHOT BY RUMANIANS.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 3.

The Revolutionaries mentioned in  
a previous telegram were shot after  
the Rumanian troops had occupied  
Leovo and other villages in Bessa-  
rabia.

The Ukrainian Rada has banded  
over the Jassy-Uglen railway to the  
Rumanians.

No supplies are being sent to the  
Fourth Army, whose Ukrainian units  
have not recognised General Tcher-  
bachev and the Rada.

It was the Military Revolutionary  
Committee of this Army which was  
invited to Jassy where they were  
armed and one member of the  
Committee was shot.

The Rumanian Legation, replying  
to M. Trotsky's threat, says it is  
not aware of the events at Leovo,  
but there had been conflicts between  
Russian troops on Rumanian terri-  
tory which was intolerable more-  
over, the whole of the Russian  
Divisions had been pillaging and  
burning, therefore, the Rumanian  
Government was obliged to inter-  
vene.



## INTIMATIONS

## NOTICE.

WE have this day authorized Mr. CHARLES BERNARD BROWN, A.C.A., to SIGN OUR FIRM name as a Partner.

LINSTEAD & DAVIS.

Hongkong, Jan. 1, 1918.

## NOTICE.

AS from the 1st Day of January, 1918, the business heretofore carried on in Hongkong under the Style of E. PABANEY will be carried on by CURRAN & CO., LTD.

P. P. E. PABANEY,  
A. B. AYASIA.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918.

## NOTICE.

WE HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that we have as from JANUARY 1st, 1918, admitted into Partnership Mr. ARCHIBALD ARTHUR CLAYTON and our Business as Manufacturers' Representatives will in future be carried on at 35 Robinson Road, Singapore and 4 Des Vaux Road, Hongkong, under the Style of NEWELL & CLAYTON.

HOLLWAY & NEWELL.

Hongkong, Jan. 1, 1918.

## NOTICE.

WE have this day admitted Mr. P. M. NOLASCO DA SILVA as a Partner in our Firm, which in future will be carried on under the style of firm of WORCESTER, LAMBERT and SILVA.

WORCESTER & LAMBERT.

Hongkong, Jan. 1, 1918.

ITALIAN CONVENT,  
Caine Road.

PITMAN'S SHORTHAND CLASSES.

NEW term for Shorthand Classes begins on the 2nd January, 1918. Private classes held in the morning. For particulars apply at the Convent.

Hongkong, Dec. 23, 1917.

## DAIRY FARM NEWS.

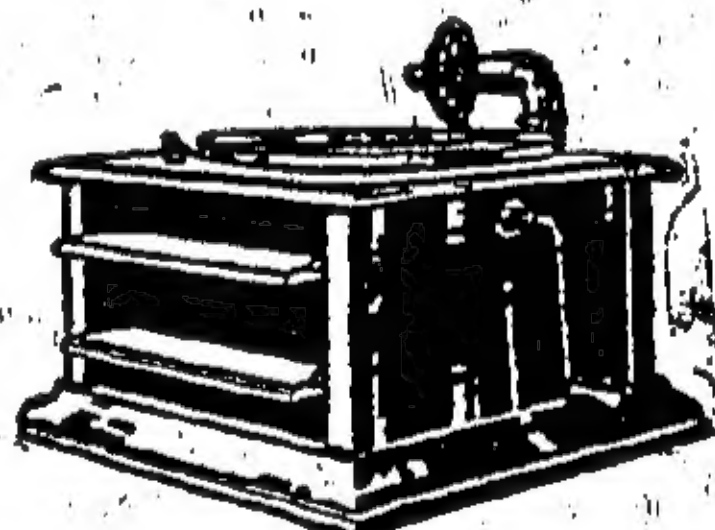
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## CORNEB PORK

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The London Directory Co., Ltd., 25, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY. THERAPION NO. 1. THERAPION NO. 2. THERAPION NO. 3.

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IN MILD, MEDIUM AND FULL STRENGTHS.  
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BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD.

## THE ALLEGED MISUSE OF HOSPITAL SHIPS.

## ADMIRALTY REPLY.

Papers laid before Parliament containing correspondence with the German Government regarding the alleged misuse of British hospital ships included the reply of the British Admiralty (Mr. Balfour being then First Lord), dated October 5th to the German allegations. This is as follows—

"The German memorandum of the 28th January, 1917, made allegations of misuse of British and Allied hospital ships, and in 23 annexes furnished evidence, chiefly in the shape of reports of officers of the German Government and statements of witnesses, which, in the view of the German Government, proved or pointed to such misuse. A further memorandum, dated the 29th March, 1917, repeated these allegations in general terms and quoted further declarations in support of them.

"In replying to the accusation brought forward by the German Government, his Majesty's Government desire, before all, to call attention to the remarkable fact that German submarines and other war ships have once exercised the right of inspecting British hospital ships, which is given to them by Article 4 of the Hague Convention for the application of principles of the Geneva Convention to maritime warfare. So far as can be ascertained, they have only once stopped a British hospital ship long enough to examine her papers. This occurred on the 28th February, 1917, when the hospital ship 'Dunluce Castle' was stopped by a German submarine in the Eastern Mediterranean; her papers were found to be in order, and the vessel was allowed to proceed.

"It might have been expected that the German Government, seeing that they had reports in their possession, which they profess to regard as reliable, pointing to the misuse of British hospital ships, would not have completely neglected the obvious and well recognised method of inspection for the purpose of verifying their suspicions. Instead, they have preferred to appeal for support to their charges to conjectural statements of persons who never had an opportunity of ascertaining whether there was real foundation for their assumptions, and on this flimsy basis without making any attempt to discover the value of the hearsay evidence which they had collected, or giving his Majesty's Government any opportunity of replying to their allegations.

they proceeded to the extreme step of ruthlessly attacking innocent hospital ships engaged in their humane task of serving the sick and wounded.

## ALLEGATIONS ANALYSED.

"His Majesty's Government have now made inquiry into the allegations contained in the German memoranda so far as they concern British hospital ships, and so far as the charges made are not in such vague terms as to preclude any possibility of investigating their foundation. Generally, the charges group themselves upon four heads, viz.:

"1.—Alleged excessive number of hospital ships in relation to the Gallipoli campaign.  
"2.—Changes in the list of hospital ships, with supposed intention to deceive.  
"3.—Alleged transport of munitions.  
"4.—Alleged transport of troops.

"As to (1), the number of hospital ships employed was not excessive having regard to the number of invalids to be evacuated from Gallipoli. On the contrary, the accommodation on hospital ships proved to be inadequate to meet requirements, and it was necessary to employ ordinary transports in addition for the conveyance of sick and wounded. These transports were, of course, not protected by the Hague Convention, did not fly the Red Cross flag, and were not listed as hospital ships.

"As to (2), no rule exists under which a hospital ship, once notified, must remain in hospital service for the duration of the war. It is perfectly true that certain ships were notified as hospital ships and later on were removed from the list. This was due to alterations in the requirements for various classes of tonnage, and the sinking of ships by submarine, and to changes in the military situation.

"There is no ground for the somewhat nebulous suggestion of the German Government that the aim of the changes was to produce uncertainty and confusion in regard to the character of the ships, and no evidence is adduced to show that military advantage could be gained by such confusion; which, in fact, would probably be disadvantageous rather than otherwise, since it would be injurious to the safety of the hospital ships themselves.

"As to (3) and (4), alleged conveyance of munitions and troops to which nearly all the evidence relates (a detailed examination of the particular instances alleged is given) it may be stated that British hospital ships have never been used for the transport of munitions or troops, and that the German Government have not been able to establish that any British hospital ship has ever been used for the transport of troops or munitions.

Corps (who are protected by the Geneva Convention) have been embarked, and it appears probable that the German Government have been misled by the fallacious deductions of their witnesses, who apparently were unable to verify their assumption that cases of Red Cross stores were really munitions of war and bodies of the Royal Medical Corps in khaki uniform detachments of combatant troops.

"The statement in the second German memorandum to the effect that, while his Majesty's Government had denied that British hospital ships had carried either troops or munitions, the British Admiralty had merely declared that no troops had been conveyed in such ships, without denying the carriage of munitions, is curiously devoid of point. Both in the statement issued by his Majesty's Government on February 1st, 1917 and in a Note addressed to the United States Ambassador in London on January 31st, the allegations of the German Government were contradicted in respect both of troops and munitions.

"The discrepancy which the German Government pretend to have discovered between the declarations of his Majesty's Government as a whole, and those of the Admiralty in particular, appears to rest on a statement issued by the Admiralty and published on February 2nd, in which particular notice is given to the allegation of Albert Mesmay, circulated in German wireless press messages, to the effect that 2,500 soldiers who were not invalids had been carried by the hospital ship 'Britannic.' With reference to this allegation, the Admiralty stated that no British hospital ship had ever embarked any persons but invalids and hospital staff. There was no occasion in that particular connection to refer to munitions. The play which the German Government make with this imaginary discrepancy is an illustration of their practice of trying to make capital out of infinitesimal points, a practice which had the appearance of being adopted in order to cover up the weakness of their main position.

## NOT PEACE AT ANY PRICE

but at the cost of only 60 cents a year if you try Pinkettes for your Constipation, Bilious attacks, Liver Troubles, Sick Headaches.



the little gentle laxative, and suggestion that the competition is over the breath of the dealer or post free from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 25 Broadway, New York.

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## WATCHMAKERS &amp; JEWELLERS.

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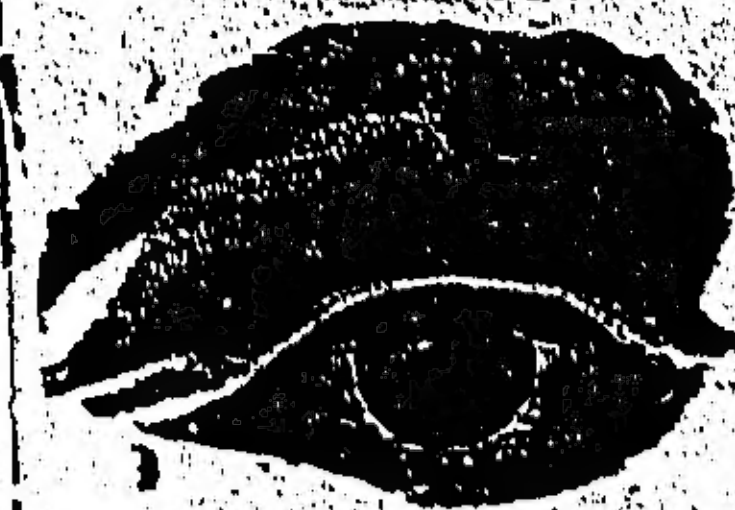
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Tanks, Drums, Ventilators, Pipes, etc., etc.

THE DIMENSIONS OF DOCKS AND SHIPS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME OF DOCK OR SHIP	LENGTH	BREADTH	DEPTH OVER KEEL	DEPTH AT ORDINARY SPRING TIDE	RISE OF TIDE	SPACING	TRAFFIC
KOWLOON							
No. 1 Dock, Kowloon	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
No. 2 Dock, Kowloon	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
No. 3 Dock, Kowloon	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 2, Kowloon	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
WATERLOO							
Patent Slip, No. 1, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 2, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 3, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 4, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 5, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 6, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 7, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 8, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 9, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
Patent Slip, No. 10, Waterloo	100	20	10	10	10	10	10

HEAD OFFICE: ROWLAND, Whampoa, N. 2.

Address: Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., 10, Queen's Road, Hongkong.



# Hughes & Hough

General Auctioneers  
Share, Coal and General Produce  
Brokers and Commission  
Agents.

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Bestley's  
A. C. 4th & 5th Editions  
A 1 Telegraphic Code.  
Telegraphic Address  
"HUGHES & HOUGH" HONGKONG.

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

## MONDAY,

the 7th January, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 3, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,  
A LARGE AMBROSIAL OF CHINESE PORCELAINS, KAKEMONOS, CURIOS, &c., &c.,

Comprising:—  
A Large variety of 5-coloured and 3-coloured Vases and Plates, Blue and White Vases and Figures, &c., Old Bronzes, including Lacquer Burners of the Sung and Ming Dynasties, Polished Caskets, (Amber and Jadestone), Carved Bamboo Ware, Old Szechwan Lacquer Boxes, Kakemonos and Wall Hangings, Jadestone and Ivory Carvings, etc., etc.

The great portion of the above stock has recently arrived from the North and includes pieces from the Ming, Kanghi, Yungching, Kienlung, Kaiching and Tzengwang Periods.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue).  
On view from Friday, at 2 p.m.  
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 3, 1918. 2438

## PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

## WEDNESDAY,

the 9th January, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 3, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,

TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, BRASS AND TWIN BEDSTEADS, CURTAINS, CARPETS, PICTURES, &c., AND A LARGE AMBROSIAL OF USEFUL HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

As follows:—  
Upholstered Suite, Arm-chairs and Chesterfield sofas, Card Tables, &c., Bedroom Furniture, comprising Double and Single Brass and Brass-mounted Bedsteads, and Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Table and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, &c., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Sets, &c., Bath Room Utensils, Roll-top Desks and Writing Tables, Sundry Electro-Plated Ware.

Electric Reading Lamps, Blackwood and Teakwood Screen, Blackwood Furniture, including Large 4-Fold Blackwood Screen with 5-Coloured Panels, Side Tables, &c., Engravings, Pictures, &c., Tennis Rackets and Net, Iron Bed, &c.

A few lots Turkish Bath Sheets, Towels, Single and Double Bed Sheets, Bed Quilts, &c.

A number of lots of DAMASCENE JEWELLERY, Also Carpets, Brass Fenders, a few lots Fire Brasses, &c.

Two PIANOS.  
(Full Particulars from Catalogue).  
Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 3, 1918. 2440

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell at their Sales Rooms, No. 3, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,

## MOTOR YACHT

Length 43 feet  
Beam 12 feet 4 inches  
Draft 5 feet  
Latterly painted, &c.  
15 and 8 H.P. Motors. Complete with sails and accessories.

Further Particulars from the Under signed.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 3, 1918. 2441

## AUCTION.

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

## FRIDAY,

the 11th January, 1918, at 3 p.m., on the spot,

The Several Lots Numbered 1 to 19 on Plan to be seen at the Auctioneers' Office, for erection of

## Booths and Matcheds.

on the Government Ground adjoining the Race Course, North of the Grand Stand Enclosure.

## Terms:—Cash.

For Plan and Condition of Sale, apply to—  
HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Auctioneers to the Government.

Hongkong, Jan. 3, 1918. 2439

## FOR SALE

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NO. 48 ROBINSON ROAD, Hongkong, (7 Rooms etc.)  
Apply to—  
G. PERCY,  
At the above Address.  
Hongkong, Dec. 25, 1917. 2429

## FOR SALE

TUSCULUM, Barker Road, 125, Peak.  
Apply—  
DUNCAN CLARK,  
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.  
Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 1

## TO BE SOLD.

"GALESEND," 109, The Peak.  
Apply—  
C. H. GALE,  
P. W. Department,  
Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 2

## TO LET

LARGE ROOM in the Ground Floor of the Old Supreme Court.  
Apply to—  
NORONHA & CO.  
Hongkong, Jan. 3, 1918. 12

## TO LET.

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED Rooms with excellent cuisine and attendance to let in the Hill District.  
Apply 1717.  
C/o "CHINA MAIL" Office.  
Hongkong, Jan. 3, 1918. 3

## TO LET.

OFFICES in York Building.  
Apply to—  
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.

## TO LET.

IMMEDIATE ENTRY, four very desirable SHOPS situated in Ice House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to the Manager, Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., 46 Connaught Road Central.  
Hongkong, August 2, 1917. 2003

## TO LET.

FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.  
Four rooms, houses in Kowloon.  
Apply to—  
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,  
Messieurs Buildings.  
Hongkong, August 22, 1917.

## 'CHINA MAIL' OVERLAND EDITION.

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ORDER IT BEFORE GOING HOME, AND THEN KEEP IT CLOSE TO YOU WITH THE COLONY.

## RUSSO-JAPANESE SECRET TREATY

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FRAMBLE.  
The Treaty stipulates that "this agreement shall remain absolutely secret to all except the High Contracting Parties." The opening statement says that it is designed to supplement and strengthen the secret Treaties of 1907, 1910, and 1912.

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The First Article provides that the High Contracting Parties shall recognize that the interests of both demand the defence of China from political domination by any third Power whatsoever cherishing hostile intentions towards China or Japan; the High Contracting Parties therefore undertake that their relations shall at all times be based on full confidence between one another in order that they may conjointly take any action that circumstances necessitate, and they therefore enter upon relations based on full confidence in one another, in order that they may conjointly take any necessary steps to prevent the advent in China of any such state of affairs.

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The Second Article provides that in the event, as a consequence of measures undertaken by mutual consent by Russia and Japan on the basis of the preceding Article, of any third Power, as foreseen in that article, declaring war against either Russia or Japan, the other Contracting Party shall, on the first demand of its Ally, come to its Ally's aid. And each of the High Contracting Parties binds itself not to make peace with the common enemy without obtaining the agreement of its Ally thereto.

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The Second Article of this Convention seems almost wide enough in its scope to render a Secret Treaty such as that now published in Russia unnecessary. At the same time it is general enough to need some particularisation. According to the Secret Treaty the growth of any other dominating power than their own in China is regarded by both Japan and Russia as a menace to mutually recognised rights.

Article II. of the Secret Treaty puts definitely what Article II. of the Convention of the same date only implies—namely, that any country which, over a China dispute, declares war on Russia or Japan, will have to fight both. A curious point in this Article is that hostile intentions of any third Power towards Japan are to be equally a cause belli with Russia as hostile intentions towards China—a case of one-sided reciprocity, apparently.

The No Separate Peace clause is clearly reminiscent of the Pact of London. Article III. seems to open the way to a possibility of either Contracting Party backing out of its obligations. "Help is not, apparently, to be given unconditionally, but on terms, and in the manner deemed meet by the helper." Article IV. (which has been somewhat mutilated in translation) seems still further to lessen the rigidity of the obligation to give armed assistance, by obliging the Party demanding help to guarantee in its turn not to let its Ally down—a not unnecessary clause, as the past few months of war history have shown.

On the whole there is nothing in the Secret Treaty which offers internal evidence against its genuineness—unless it be that it contains so little that is not covered by the Convention. This definiteness on the subject of making war, however, the diplomatists consider it wise to keep out of published treaties—though there is a very strong body of opinion in all countries now against such secret pacts, which certainly seem potent only for making a small trouble into a great one.

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At the time that the Convention was concluded there were numerous rumours that it was accompanied by a Secret Treaty, some papers declaring that the known was of much less importance than the unknown.

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